

FILED

NOV 20 2012

RICHARD W. WIEKING  
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JAMES D. CHAVEZ,

Petitioner,

vs.

WARDEN,

Respondent.

No. C 11-03919 EJD (PR)

ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO  
DISMISS; DENYING CERTIFICATE  
OF APPEALABILITY

(Docket No. 9)

Petitioner, a California prisoner, filed a pro se petition for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254, challenging a prison disciplinary decision that resulted in the loss of good time credits. Respondent has moved to dismiss the petition for failure to exhaust and as untimely. (Docket No. 9.) Petitioner has not filed an opposition although he was given an opportunity to do so. For the reasons discussed below, the Court grants Respondent's motion to dismiss.

**BACKGROUND**

Petitioner challenges a prison disciplinary hearing at which he was found guilty of attempted battery on a peace officer. Petitioner was assessed 150 days loss of credits on November 30, 2006. (Pet. at 10-11.) Petitioner challenged the decision by filing an

1 inmate appeal to the second level of administrative review, that was denied on January  
2 17, 2007. (Mot., Ex. 1.) Petitioner states he attempted to file an inmate appeal to the  
3 third level of review, but it was lost in the mail. (Pet. at 6.) Petitioner did not challenge  
4 the disciplinary decision in state court.

5 Petitioner filed the instant federal habeas petition on August 10, 2011.

## 6 7 **DISCUSSION**

### 8 **A. Exhaustion**

9 Prisoners in state custody who wish to challenge collaterally in federal habeas  
10 proceedings either the fact or length of their confinement are first required to exhaust  
11 state judicial remedies, either on direct appeal or through collateral proceedings, by  
12 presenting the highest state court available with a fair opportunity to rule on the merits of  
13 each and every claim they seek to raise in federal court. See 28 U.S.C. § 2254(b)-(c).  
14 Before he may challenge either the fact or length of his confinement in a habeas petition  
15 in this Court, petitioner must present to the California Supreme Court any claims he  
16 wishes to raise in this court. See Rose v. Lundy, 455 U.S. 509, 522 (1982) (holding every  
17 claim raised in federal habeas petition must be exhausted). If available state remedies  
18 have not been exhausted as to all claims, the district court must dismiss the petition. See  
19 id., 455 U.S. at 510; Guizar v. Estelle, 843 F.2d 371, 372 (9th Cir. 1988).

20 It is clear from the petition and the motion to dismiss that Petitioner did not  
21 exhaust any of the claims presented in the petition. Accordingly, the motion to dismiss  
22 the petition for failure to exhaust is granted.

### 23 **B. Statute of Limitations**

24 The Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 ("AEDPA"), which  
25 became law on April 24, 1996, imposed for the first time a statute of limitations on  
26 petitions for a writ of habeas corpus filed by state prisoners. Petitions filed by prisoners  
27 challenging non-capital state convictions or sentences must be filed within one year of the  
28 latest of the date on which: (A) the judgment became final after the conclusion of direct

1 review or the time passed for seeking direct review; (B) an impediment to filing an  
 2 application created by unconstitutional state action was removed, if such action prevented  
 3 petitioner from filing; (C) the constitutional right asserted was recognized by the Supreme  
 4 Court, if the right was newly recognized by the Supreme Court and made retroactive to  
 5 cases on collateral review; or (D) the factual predicate of the claim could have been  
 6 discovered through the exercise of due diligence. 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d)(1). Time during  
 7 which a properly filed application for state post-conviction or other collateral review is  
 8 pending is excluded from the one-year time limit. Id. § 2244(d)(2). The one-year period  
 9 generally will run from “the date on which the judgment became final by conclusion of  
 10 direct review or the expiration of the time for seeking such review.” 28 U.S.C. §  
 11 2244(d)(1)(A).

12 In most cases, the limitations period begins running on the date that the petitioner’s  
 13 direct review becomes final, pursuant to subsection (d)(1)(A). In a situation like this,  
 14 however, where the petitioner is challenging a prison disciplinary decision, the Ninth  
 15 Circuit has held that direct review is concluded and the statute of limitations commences,  
 16 pursuant to subsection (d)(1)(D), when the final administrative appeal is denied. Shelby  
 17 v. Bartlett, 391 F.3d 1061, 1066 (9th Cir. 2004) (holding that statute of limitation does not  
 18 begin to run until petitioner’s administrative appeal has been denied); Redd v. McGrath,  
 19 343 F.3d 1077, 1081-83 (9th Cir. 2003) (holding that denial of inmate’s administrative  
 20 appeal was the “factual predicate” of inmate’s claim that triggered commencement of  
 21 limitations period).

22 Petitioner’s inmate appeal to the second level was denied on January 17, 2007.  
 23 See supra at 2. Petitioner states that his inmate appeal to the third level was lost in the  
 24 mail, therefore the second level decision is the final administrative decision upholding the  
 25 disciplinary finding. This serves as the date Petitioner learned of the factual predicate of  
 26 the claims and the statute of limitations commenced the next day, January 18, 2007.  
 27 Shelby, 391 F.3d at 1066 (limitations period begin to run one day after the final  
 28 administrative decision). The limitations period expired one year later on January 18,

1 2008. See 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d)(1). The instant petition was not filed until August 10,  
2 2011, more than three years later. See supra at 2. Unless tolling applies, the instant  
3 petition is untimely.

4 **C. Statutory Tolling**

5 The one-year statute of limitations is tolled under § 2244(d)(2) for the “time during  
6 which a properly filed application for State post-conviction or other collateral review with  
7 respect to the pertinent judgment or claim is pending.” 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d)(2).

8 Petitioner did not file any habeas petition in state court, therefore there is no tolling  
9 and the petition is untimely by more than three years.

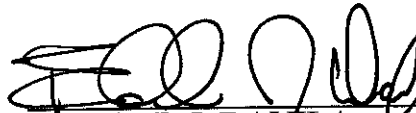
10  
11 **CONCLUSION**

12 For the foregoing reasons, Respondent’s motion to dismiss the petition for failure  
13 to exhaust and as untimely, (Docket No. 9), is GRANTED. The instant petition for a writ  
14 of habeas corpus is DISMISSED.

15 No certificate of appealability is warranted in this case. See Rule 11(a) of the  
16 Rules Governing § 2254 Cases, 28 U.S.C. foll. § 2254 (requiring district court to rule on  
17 certificate of appealability in same order that denies petition). Petitioner has not shown  
18 “that jurists of reason would find it debatable whether the petition states a valid claim of  
19 the denial of a constitutional right and that jurists of reason would find it debatable  
20 whether the district court was correct in its procedural ruling.” Slack v. McDaniel, 529  
21 U.S. 473, 484 (2000).

22 This order terminates Docket No. 9.

23  
24 DATED: 11/20/12

  
EDWARD J. DAVILA  
United States District Judge

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JAMES D. CHAVEZ,  
Petitioner,

Case Number CV 11-03919 EJD (PR)

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

v.

Warden,

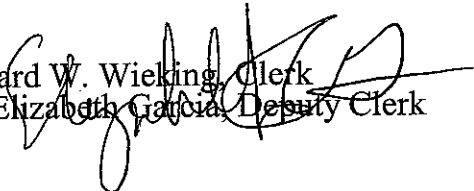
Respondent.  
\_\_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I am an employee in the Office of the Clerk, U.S. District Court, Northern District of California.

That on 11/20/12, I SERVED a true and correct copy(ies) of the attached, by placing said copy(ies) in a postage paid envelope addressed to the person(s) hereinafter listed, by depositing said envelope in the U.S. Mail, or by placing said copy(ies) inter-office delivery receptacle located in the Clerk's office.

**James D. Chavez**  
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Corcoran State Prison  
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P. O. Box 8800  
4A-2L-#49  
Corcoran, CA 93212-4636

DATED: 11/20/12

  
Richard W. Wieking, Clerk  
By: Elizabeth Garcia, Deputy Clerk